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The hon, the Raja of Panagal:—"When the people of a particular area apply to the Government to constitute a separate taluk board for that area, then the Government will consider the application on its merits."

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar:—"Then, may I know whether the Government bave received any such applications from the people in Ramnad and Madura districts?"

The hon, the Raja of Panagal:—"I would require notice. I cannot answer that question off-hand."

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar:—"Coming to the last clause (e), may I know by whom the Government were advised as to the nomination of certain taluk board presidents?"

The hon, the Raja of Panagal :- " By the authorities concerned."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :- " By the District Collector?"

The hon, the Raja of Panagal:—"Yes; and the President of the District Board."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR May I know whether the taluk boards were consulted in the matter?

The hon, the RAJA OF PANAGAL: Yes, Sir."

Mr. P. Peddiraju:—"With reference to the formation of taluk beards, may I ask the hon, the Chief Minister why, in spite of representation made by the taluk people of Rajahmunday, no action has been taken to differentiate the boards?"

The hon, the Raja of Panagal:—"I doubt whether that question arises out of the answer given."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the taluk boards have been given the opportunity of saying whether or not they want an elected president?"

The hon, the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes; the taluk boards have opportunities to express their views on the subject."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know what their views are?"

Opening of roads by the District Board of Ramnad.

- *33 Q.—Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar: Will the hon, the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—
- (a) whether any sanction was ever made by the District Board of Ramnad to construct a road between Virudunagar and Watrap through Nadyaneri village;
 - (b) if so, why the work was not carried out; and
- (c) how many new roads have been opened by the District Board of Ramnad within the last five years with the names of the taluks in which they are opened?

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A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The annual administration reports of the district boards for the five years ending 1923-24 show that the following roads were constructed during those years:—

1919-20-Paramakudi-Mudukulathur road-2nd and 3rd sections.

Ramnad-Kilakarai road—3 sections.
Sivakasi-Virudupatti road—1st section.
Total length—9 miles.

1920-21—Ramnad-Kilakarai road—5½ miles. Other roads—3¾ miles.

1921–22—Nil. 1922–23—5 miles. 1923–24—21½ miles.

The Government have no further information.

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar:—"With reference to clauses (a) and (b), will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon, the Raja of Panagal:—"The hon. Member may have the information from the Board direct."

Election to the 24th ward of the Kumbakonam Municipal Council.

*34 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon, the Minister for Local

Self-Government be pleased to state

(a) whether the Chairman of the Kumbakonam municipality received a communication on the night of the 19th December 1923 from one of the duly nominated candidates for election to the 24th ward of the local Municipal Council;

(b) whether the said candidate made any statement in the communication referred to in (a) that he had not withdrawn his candidature for the

said ward;

- (c) whether his request to the Chairman in the communication referred to in (a) to refrain from making any declaration till at least the day after the next was ever considered by the Chairman, and if so, whether any reply was given by the Chairman officially to the letter in question;
- (d) if no reply was sent, the reasons therefor;
 (e) whether the candidate addressed another letter to the Chairman on
 20th December 1923 stating that the withdrawal of his candidature was a
 fraudulent and forged one and requesting the Chairman to investigate the
 matter;

(f) what action the Chairman took on the letter referred to in (e) and,

if no action was taken, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether Government are aware of the fact that the candidate in question made a request to the Chairman in his letter of the 20th December 1923 soliciting Government investigation in the matter through a trained and capable officer and not to declare anybody elected for the said ward until the result of the investigation was known;

(h) if so, whether Government received any communication on the

matter from the Chairman; and

(i) if the answer to (h) be in the affirmative, whether the Government can place on the table a copy of the communication received from the Chairman and the former's reply thereto?